

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1-8 as follows.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An air conditioner for a vehicle, comprising
a fan [(3)];

an air conditioning casing [(2)] that is provided at the downstream side of the fan [(3)] in an air flow direction and that defines an air passage through which air is blown from the fan [(3)] to a vehicle compartment;

heating means [(5)] that is housed in the air conditioning casing [(2)] and that heats the air blown to a vehicle compartment; and

a flexible diaphragm member [(3d)] defining a sealed chamber to/from which a fluid is charged/discharged to vary the sectional area of the air passage [(3b)], said flexible diaphragm member being disposed in the air passage [(3b)] in the fan [(3)], wherein

the fluid is charged or discharged in accordance with a ventilation resistance in the air conditioning casing [(2)].

2. (currently amended) An air conditioner for a vehicle, comprising:
a fan [(3)];

an air conditioning casing [(2)] that is provided at the downstream side of the fan [(3)] in an air flow direction and that defines an air passage through which air is blown from the fan [(3)] to a vehicle compartment;

heating means [(5)] that is housed in the air conditioning casing [(2)] and that heats the air blown to a vehicle compartment; and

a flexible diaphragm member [(3d)] defining a sealed chamber to/from which a fluid is charged/discharged to vary the sectional area of the air passage [(3b)], said flexible diaphragm member being disposed in the air passage [(3b)] in the fan [(3)]; wherein

a heated medium is charged to the flexible diaphragm member [(3d)] is maximum heating.

3. (currently amended) ~~An air conditioner for a vehicle according to claim 2,~~
~~wherein~~ An air conditioner for a vehicle, comprising

a fan;

an air conditioning casing that is provided at the downstream side of the fan in an air flow direction and that defines an air passage through which air is blown from the fan to a vehicle compartment;

heating means that is housed in the air conditioning casing and that heats the air blown to a vehicle compartment; and

a flexible diaphragm member to/from which a fluid is charged/discharged to vary the sectional area of the air passage. said flexible diaphragm member being disposed in the air passage in the fan, wherein

a heated medium is charged to the flexible diaphragm member in maximum heating; and

the heated medium is engine cooling water.

4. (currently amended) An air conditioner for a vehicle, comprising

a fan [(3)];

an air conditioning casing [(2)] that is provided at the downstream side of the fan [(3)] in an air flow direction and that defines an air passage through which air is blown from the fan [(3)] to a vehicle compartment;

heating means [(5)] that is housed in the air conditioning casing [(2)] and that heats the air blown to a vehicle compartment; and

a flexible diaphragm member [(3d)] defining a sealed chamber to/from which a fluid is charged/discharged to vary the sectional area of the air passage [(3b)], said flexible diaphragm member being disposed in the air passage [(3b)] in the fan [(3)], wherein

a heated medium is charged to the flexible diaphragm member [(3d)] in foot mode in which air is blown toward the lower side of a vehicle compartment.

5. (currently amended) ~~An air conditioner for a vehicle according to claim 4,~~
~~wherein~~ An air conditioner for a vehicle, comprising

a fan;

an air conditioning casing that is provided at the downstream side of the fan in an air flow direction and that defines an air passage through which air is blown from the fan to a vehicle compartment;

heating means that is housed in the air conditioning casing and that heats the air blown to a vehicle compartment; and

heating means that is housed in the air conditioning casing and that heats the air blown to a vehicle compartment; and

a flexible diaphragm member to/from which a fluid is charged/discharged to vary the sectional area of the air passage, said flexible diaphragm member being disposed in the air passage in the fan, wherein

a heated medium is charged to the flexible diaphragm member in foot mode in which air is blown toward the lower side of a vehicle compartment; and

the heated medium is engine cooling water.

6. (currently amended) ~~An air conditioner for a vehicle according to claim 1,~~
~~wherein~~ An air conditioner for a vehicle, comprising

a fan;

an air conditioning casing that is provided at the downstream side of the fan in an air flow direction and that defines an air passage through which air is blown from the fan to a vehicle compartment;

heating means that is housed in the air conditioning casing and that heats the air blown to a vehicle compartment; and

a flexible diaphragm member to/from which a fluid is charged/discharged to vary the sectional area of the air passage, said flexible diaphragm member being disposed in the air passage in the fan, wherein

the fluid is charged or discharged in accordance with a ventilation resistance in the air conditioning casing; and

a number of recessed and projected portions are provided in the portion of the flexible diaphragm member [[[3d)]] which is exposed to air passing through the air passage [[[3b)]]].

7. (currently amended) ~~An air conditioner for a vehicle according to claim 1,~~
~~wherein~~ An air conditioner for a vehicle, comprising

a fan;

an air conditioning casing that is provided at the downstream side of the fan in an air flow direction and that defines an air passage through which air is blown from the fan to a vehicle compartment;

heating means that is housed in the air conditioning casing and that heats the air blown to a vehicle compartment; and

a flexible diaphragm member to/from which a fluid is charged/discharged to vary the sectional area of the air passage, said flexible diaphragm member being disposed in the air passage in the fan, wherein

the fluid is charged or discharged in accordance with a ventilation resistance in the air conditioning casing; and

the flexible diaphragm member [[[3d)]] is divided into a plurality of layered spaces, and the spaces to/from which a fluid is charged/discharged are switched in accordance with a ventilation resistance in the air conditioning casing [[[2)]]].

8. (currently amended) ~~An air conditioner for a vehicle according to claim 1,~~
~~wherein~~ An air conditioner for a vehicle, comprising

a fan;

an air conditioning casing that is provided at the downstream side of the fan in an air flow direction and that defines an air passage through which air is blown from the fan to a vehicle compartment;

heating means that is housed in the air conditioning casing and that heats the air blown to a vehicle compartment; and

a flexible diaphragm member to/from which a fluid is charged/discharged to vary the sectional area of the air passage, said flexible diaphragm member being disposed in the air passage in the fan, wherein

the fluid is charged or discharged in accordance with a ventilation resistance in the air conditioning casing; and

the fan $[(3)]$ comprises a centrifugal fan $[(3a)]$ that has a number of vanes, around a rotating shaft thereof, to supply, in radial directions, air drawn along an axial direction of the rotating shaft; and a scroll casing $[(3c)]$ that houses the centrifugal fan $[(3a)]$ and defines a spiral air passage $[(3b)]$ through which air supplied from the centrifugal fan $[(3a)]$ passes, and

. the flexible diaphragm member is disposed at at least an inner wall of an outer periphery of the scroll casing $[(3c)]$.